

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

10 AM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

SUMMER HYMN SING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor

(Please stand as you are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - Pastor

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

1 John 1:8

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

GATHERING HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

2 Corinthians
13:13-14

GREETING - Pastor

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

We ask for God's
mercy

Luke 17:13; 18:39,
Psalm 123:3

HYMN OF PRAISE



As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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*This prayer "collects"
the theme of the day.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Assisting Minister

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

*This reading is
typically from the
Hebrew Scriptures,
which Jesus often
quoted.*

THE FIRST LESSON - Lector

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY MUSIC

Be Thou My Vision
(Flute: Patsy Mattingley)

Arr. By Gary Lanier



This reading bears
witness to the early
church.

THE SECOND LESSON - *Lector*

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.** (*Please stand as you are able*)

We acclaim the living
Word, Jesus Christ,
present in the gospel
reading.

John 6:68

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE GOSPEL LESSON - *Pastor*

Matthew 18:15-20

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*Please be seated*)

Viva Vox," the Living
Word of God
interpreted. (Romans
10:14-17)

SERMON - *Pastor*

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

ELW 603

Ancient church
councils adopted the
summary of the
church's faith in the
Nicene, Apostles' and
Athanasian Creeds.

CONFESSION OF FAITH - *Assisting Minister*

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We pray for ourselves
and particularly on
behalf of others.
(1 Timothy 2:1-2; 1
Thessalonians 5:17;
Acts 2:42)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - *Assisting Minister*

To the words "Hear us, O God," the congregation responds "Your mercy is great."

Extending God's word
of peace to others.
(Romans 16:16;
Matthew 5:23-24)

SHARING OF THE PEACE - *Pastor*

1 Corinthians 16:1-2
2 Corinthians 9:7-9

THE OFFERING *(Please be seated)*

We thank you for your generosity and support! We are blessed to return thanks to God through our offerings to support the work of the Church in the world. Ushers will bring the plates to those worshipping in person this day. For those worshipping online you may give electronically or by way of US Mail. Your gifts enable our day to day operational budget, our missions, and the care of those in need. Please visit www.stmartinsannapolis.org/giving or scan the QR code here:

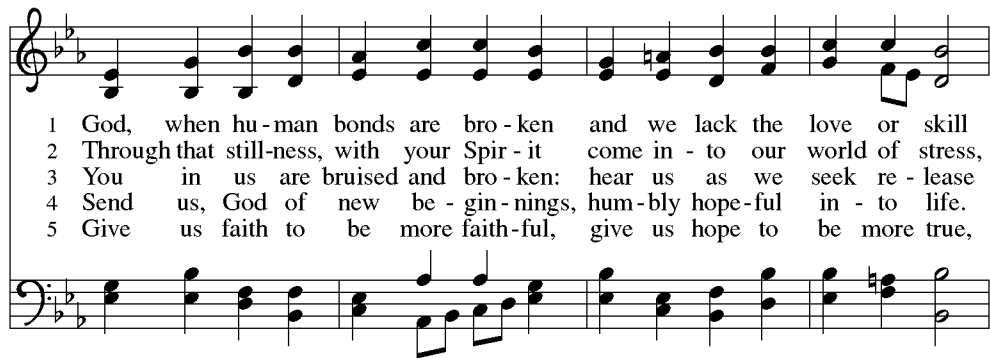


OFFERTORY MUSIC

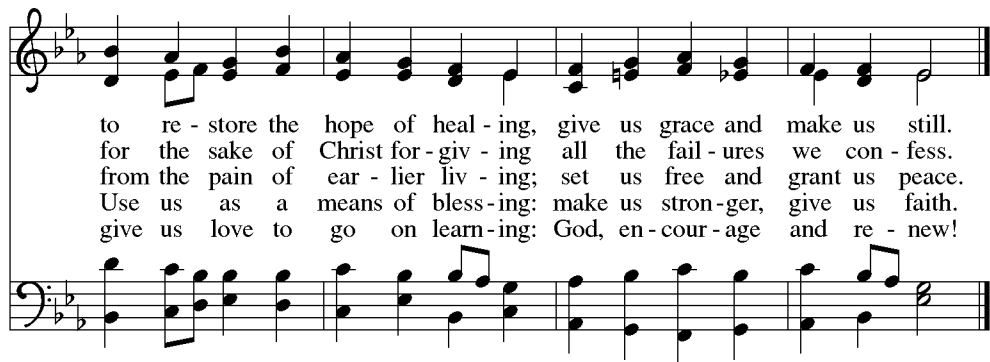
Here I Am Lord
(Soprano: Nancy Cloeter)

Arr. by Adedotun Olayemi

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

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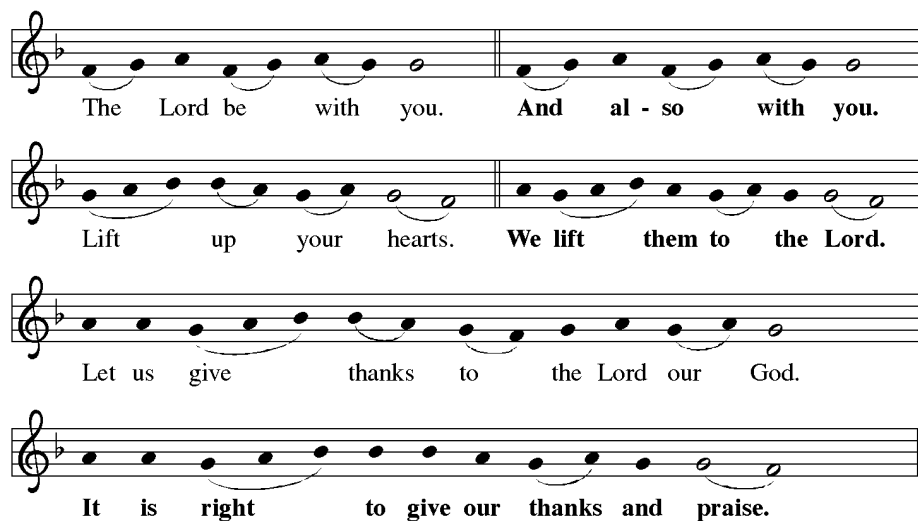
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER - *Assisting Minister*

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

*Before the Lord's
 supper is shared, the
 presiding minister leads
 us into thanksgiving.
 (Psalm 15:1)*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please stand as you are able) - Pastor*



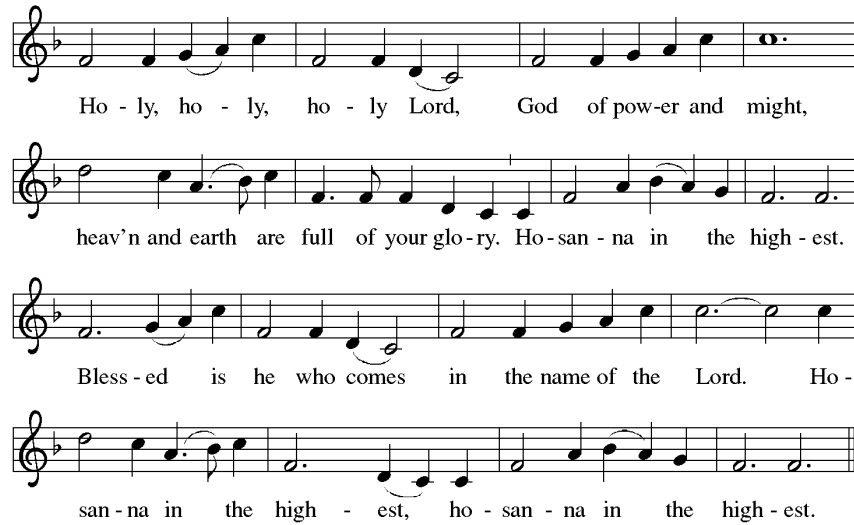
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE - *Pastor*

It is indeed right our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God. (Isaiah 6:3)

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

In these words—Jesus institutes the sacrament for the church

Matthew 26:26-28;
Luke 22:19-20; 1
Corinthians 11:23-26

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *Pastor*

Jesus teaches his disciples to pray.

(Luke 11:24;
Matthew 6:9-13)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - *Pastor*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen. *(Please be seated)*

Our invitation to Christ's Table
(adapted from Iona Community, Scotland)

INVITATION - *Pastor*

This is Christ's table. It is a table of love and welcome. It is a table of fellowship with the poor.

It is a table of communion with the earth.

So, come those of you who have great faith and those of you who wish you had more.

Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus, and those of you who have failed.

Come, those of you who depend on this sacrament for your life, and those of you for whom it is a new and strange thing. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come!

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As John the Baptist
pointed to Jesus, he
said these words.

(John 1:29)

THE AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*****Blue Communion Cards-** Please remember to fill in a blue communion card each week. You can hand your blue communion cards to an usher as you come up for communion.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION - At the Lord's Table we share in the gift of Jesus' body and blood. Please bring an empty glass from the head of the aisle to receive wine from a pouring cup. Grape juice is available in the pre-filled glasses near the empty ones. If you need a gluten-free option for bread, please indicate that to the person with bread. Peel away communion kits are also available for any who so desire. Blessings will be given to those not yet communing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Earth and All Stars!
I Received the Living God

ELW 731
ELW 477

POST COMMUNION BLESSING (Please stand as you are able) - Pastor

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER - Assisting Minister

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION - Pastor

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

ELW 864

DISMISSAL - Assisting Minister

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Lauda Anima"

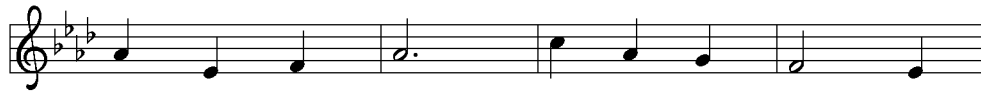
- Don Hustad

A personal blessing
from God in the name
of the Triune God.
(Numbers 6:24-26)

On our way rejoicing.
(Colossians 3:16;
Philippians 4:4)

We go forth to bless the
world
Luke 7:50;
Romans 10:12-13

Earth and All Stars!



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class - rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl - edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!

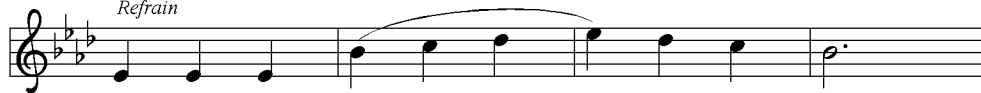


Hail,	wind,	and	rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp,	lute,	and	lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone	and	beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!	
Ath - lete	and	band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!	
Daugh - ter	and	son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!

Refrain

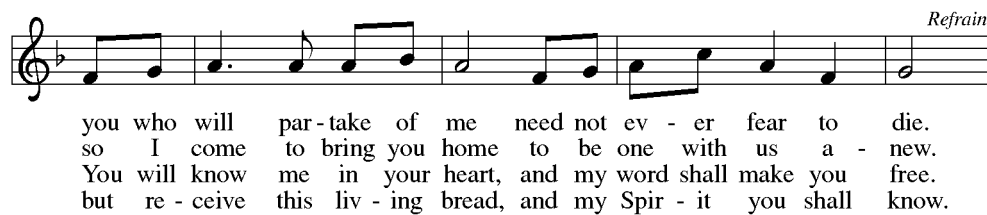
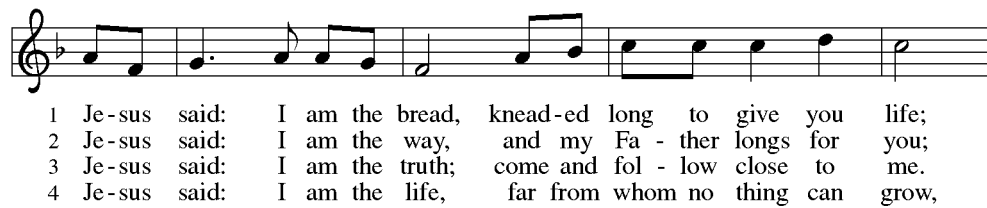
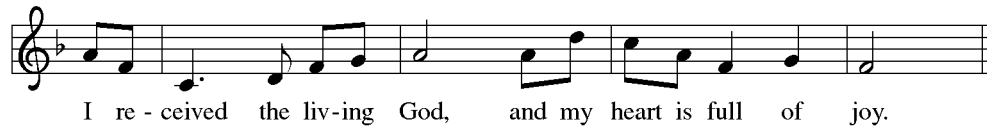
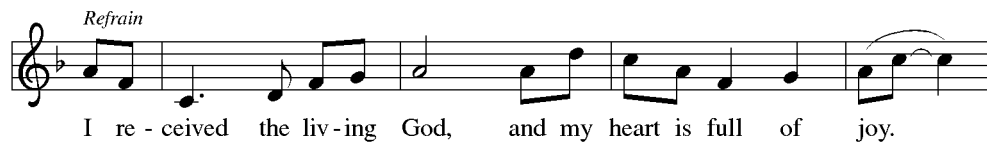


God	has	done	mar	-	vel - ous	things.
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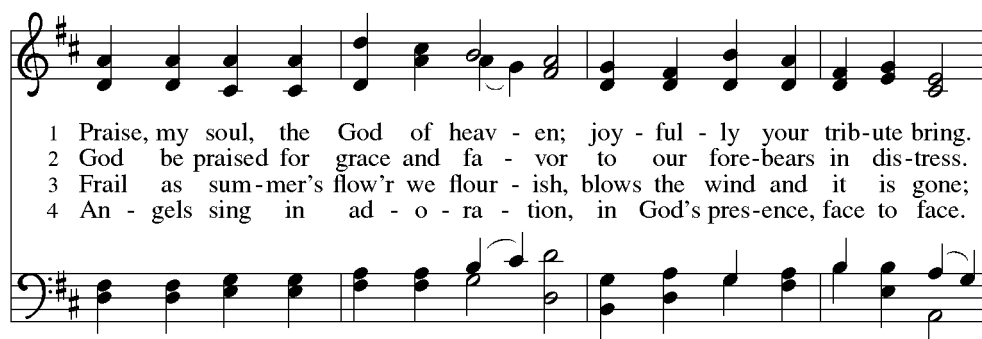
I	too	sing	prais - es	with	a	new	song!
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I Received the Living God

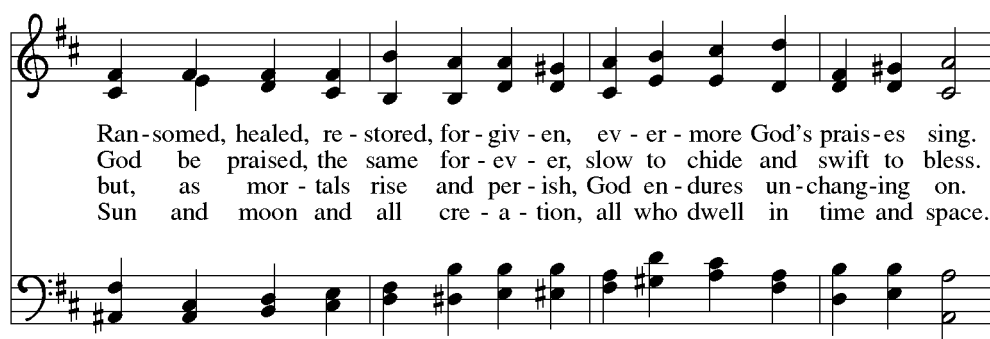


Text: Anonymous
Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

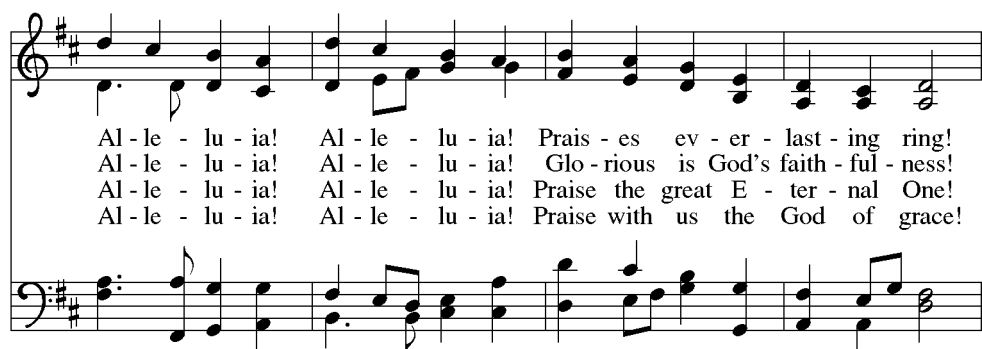
Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
 God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.
 Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880